

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- WHAT DOES THE 14TH AMENDMENT ACTUALLY SAY?
- IS BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE 14TH AMENDMENT?
 - DOES THE 14TH AMENDMENT APPLY TO THOSE WHO PRE-DATE THE CONSTITUTION?
 - DOES THE 14TH AMENDMENT CONTEXTUALISE “SLAVERY”?
 - TO WHOM DOES THE CONSTITUTION ACTUALLY APPLY?
 - WHO ALL WERE SLAVES?

ALL CONTENT PRESENTED, EXCEPT WHERE EXPLICITLY STATED OR REFERENCED, IS OF MY OPINION AND SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS LAW OR PRECEDENT.
FURTHERMORE, I AM NOT AN ATTORNEY!

“FAIR USE” WHERE APPLICABLE.

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“WHAT DOES THE 14TH AMENDMENT ACTUALLY SAY?”

by KRISTA DANDRIDGE-BARNETT

TUESDAY | JULY 01, 2025 | 1:00PM EST

WEDNESDAY | JULY 02, 2025 | 9:52AM EST

2ND EDIT

WHAT DOES THE 14TH AMENDMENT ACTUALLY SAY?

[CONSTITUTION.CONGRESS.GOV/CONSTITUTION/AMENDMENT-14](https://www.constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-14)
[U.S. CONSTITUTION - FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT | RESOURCES | CONSTITUTION](#)
[ANNOTATED | CONGRESS.GOV | LIBRARY OF CONGRESS:](#)

SECTION I

“ALL PERSONS BORN OR NATURALIZED IN THE UNITED STATES, AND SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION THEREOF, ARE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF THE STATE WHEREIN THEY RESIDE. NO STATE SHALL MAKE OR ENFORCE ANY LAW WHICH SHALL ABRIDGE THE PRIVILEGES OR IMMUNITIES OF CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES; NOR SHALL ANY STATE DEPRIVE ANY PERSON OF LIFE, LIBERTY, OR PROPERTY, WITHOUT DUE PROCESS OF LAW; NOR DENY TO ANY PERSON WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION THE EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAWS”.

- **IS BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE 14TH AMENDMENT?**
 - **DOES THE 14TH AMENDMENT APPLY TO THOSE WHO PRE-DATE THE CONSTITUTION?**

“ALL PERSONS BORN OR NATURALIZED IN THE UNITED STATES, AND SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION THEREOF, ARE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF THE STATE WHEREIN THEY RESIDE....”

“SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION THEREOF” APPEARS TO BE REFERENCING THOSE WHO ARE ALREADY WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE LAWS IN WHICH THEY ARE SITUATED. SO, IF I WERE TO REWORD THE AFOREREFERENCED, I WOULD SIMPLY STATE, “ALL PERSONS BORN OR NATURALISED IN THE UNITED STATES, ALREADY WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE LAW IN WHICH SUBJECTED TO OR SITUATED IN, ARE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF THE STATE WHEREIN THEY RESIDE”.

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MANY HAVE ALLEGED THE TEXT TO SOMEHOW INDICATE “SLAVES”, BUT NOWHERE HAVE I FOUND IT TO BE THE CASE. THE REALITY IS, SECTION 1 MAY HAVE VERY WELL BEEN REFERENCING INDIANS (NEGROES) WHO WERE ALREADY LEGAL (“INDIAN LAW”) BY BLOOD INHERITANCE, TO, THEREBY, BE INCORPORATED INTO THE SYSTEM/GOVERNMENT.

PERPLEXITY.AI:

“THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION WAS CREATED DURING THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION HELD IN PHILADELPHIA FROM MAY 25 TO SEPTEMBER 17, 1787. IT WAS SIGNED ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1787 BY THE DELEGATES PRESENT AT THE CONVENTION. THE CONSTITUTION WAS THEN SENT TO THE STATES FOR RATIFICATION AND OFFICIALLY BECAME EFFECTIVE AFTER NEW HAMPSHIRE BECAME THE NINTH STATE TO RATIFY IT ON JUNE 21, 1788. THE NEW GOVERNMENT UNDER THE CONSTITUTION BEGAN OPERATING ON MARCH 4, 1789”.

- **WHO IS THE NEGRO (INJUN)?**

THE TERM “INJUN” DOES **NOT** APPLY TO THE GROUPS OF PEOPLE SOCIETY HAS PROPAGATED AS THE “INDIANS”. FURTHERMORE, THE TERM “INJUN” DOES NOT OFFEND ME, BECAUSE, BY ALL ACCOUNTS WHEN CONSIDERING CERTAIN BLOOD LINES, I AM AN INJUN, I AM AN INDIAN, BECAUSE I AM NEGRO. IT IS FAIR TO NOTE THAT JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE IS CLASSIFIED AS “BLACK” DOES NOT MAKE THE PERSON AN INDIAN (INJUN, NEGRO).

INJUN DEFINITION & MEANING | DICTIONARY.COM:

“INJUN. / ˈɪndʒən /. NOUN. AN INFORMAL OR DIALECT WORD FOR (AMERICAN) INDIAN”.

THE “Dʒ” IS EQUIVALENT TO THE “DJ” SOUND.

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SEARCH LABS | AI OVERVIEW:

“IN SOME INDIAN ENGLISH ACCENTS, THE VOICED PALATAL AFFRICATE /Dʒ/ IS USED TO APPROXIMATE THE VOICED ALVEOLAR FRICATIVE /Z/. THIS SUBSTITUTION IS COMMON BECAUSE MANY INDIAN LANGUAGES LACK THE /Z/ SOUND OR FIND IT DIFFICULT TO PRONOUNCE, AND /Dʒ/ IS A VOICED SOUND THAT IS CLOSER IN ARTICULATION TO /Z/ THAN THE UNVOICED /S/.

HERE’S A MORE DETAILED EXPLANATION:

MANY INDIAN LANGUAGES, PARTICULARLY IN THE NORTH, DO NOT HAVE THE /Z/ SOUND AS A DISTINCT PHONEME.

APPROXIMATION WITH /Dʒ/:

INSTEAD OF /Z/, SPEAKERS MAY USE /Dʒ/ (AS IN "JOB") AS A CLOSE APPROXIMATION.

WHY /Dʒ/?:

THE /Dʒ/ SOUND IS VOICED LIKE /Z/, AND IT’S A STOP (LIKE /D/) FOLLOWED BY A FRICATIVE (LIKE /ʒ/), WHICH MAKES IT A MORE NATURAL SUBSTITUTION FOR SOME SPEAKERS THAN THE UNVOICED /S/.

EXAMPLE:

THE WORD "ZEBRA" MIGHT BE PRONOUNCED "JEEBRA".

OTHER SUBSTITUTIONS:

WHILE /Dʒ/ IS COMMON, OTHER SUBSTITUTIONS CAN OCCUR, LIKE USING /S/ OR EVEN /ʃ/ FOR /Z/ IN SOME CONTEXTS AND FOR SOME SPEAKERS.

NOT UNIVERSAL:

IT’S IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT NOT ALL INDIAN SPEAKERS PRONOUNCE /Z/ AS /Dʒ/. SOME MAY HAVE DISTINCT /Z/ SOUNDS IN THEIR NATIVE LANGUAGES (LIKE ASSAMESE, MARATHI, TAMIL, AND URDU) OR MAY HAVE LEARNED TO PRONOUNCE /Z/ CORRECTLY IN ENGLISH”.

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“DI” CAN ALSO BE EQUIVALENT TO THE “DJ” SOUND.

SEARCH LABS | AI OVERVIEW:

“PHONETIC TRANSCRIPTION: UK (MODERN IPA): iˈNDIjən

UK (TRADITIONAL IPA): ˈɪNDIːən

AMERICAN ENGLISH (IPA): [ˈɪNDIən] OR [ˈɪNDɪən]

AMERICAN ENGLISH (PHONETIC SPELLING): /INDEEUHN/ OR /INDIUHN/”

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THE MAYAS WERE INDEED THE NAGAS OR THE MOORS OF YESTERYEAR AS I CONTINUE DOWN THE SPIRALLY ROAD OF PHONETICS.

NAGA = NEGRO

MAYA = NAGA

ACCORDING TO SOME ONLINE CONTENT, IN NIGERIA, “**MAYATE**” IS A REFERENCE TO BLACKS IN THE UNITED STATES.

SEARCH LABS | AI OVERVIEW:

“IN CERTAIN LANGUAGES, PARTICULARLY ROMANCE LANGUAGES, THERE’S A HISTORICAL PHENOMENON KNOWN AS PALATALIZATION THAT CAN CAUSE THE SOUNDS REPRESENTED BY THE LETTERS “D” AND “G” TO TRANSFORM INTO SOUNDS AKIN TO “J”.

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- **PALATALIZATION:** PALATALIZATION IS A SOUND CHANGE WHERE A CONSONANT'S ARTICULATION SHIFTS TOWARDS THE PALATE, OFTEN DUE TO NEARBY FRONT VOWELS SUCH AS "I" OR "E," OR A PALATAL CONSONANT LIKE "J".
- **VELAR STOPS:** CONSONANTS LIKE "G" AND "K," PRODUCED AT THE BACK OF THE MOUTH, CAN UNDERGO PALATALIZATION WHEN NEAR FRONT VOWELS.
- **TRANSFORMATION TO A "J" SOUND:** AS "G" MOVES FORWARD IN THE MOUTH DURING PALATALIZATION, IT CAN DEVELOP INTO A PALATAL VERSION SIMILAR TO [j] OR [Gj], WHICH CAN THEN EVOLVE INTO AN AFFRICATE SOUND LIKE [dʒ] (THE SOUND IN "JUDGE"). THIS SOUND IS OFTEN REPRESENTED BY THE LETTER "J".
- **"D" AND "J" RELATIONSHIP:** THE AFFRICATE SOUND [dʒ] CAN BE ANALYZED AS A COMBINATION OF THE "D" SOUND AND THE "ZH" SOUND IN "TREASURE". THIS CONNECTION EXPLAINS WHY IN SOME LANGUAGES, SUCH AS BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE, "D" CAN SOUND LIKE "J" BEFORE A FRONT VOWEL LIKE "I".

EXAMPLES: LATIN TO FRENCH:

- IN LATIN, THE SOUND /j/ (LIKE THE "Y" IN "YES") EVOLVED INTO THE /dʒ/ SOUND (LIKE THE "J" IN "GEM") IN OLD FRENCH. WORDS BORROWED FROM FRENCH INTO ENGLISH CARRIED THIS SOUND.
- **BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE:** IN SOME BRAZILIAN ACCENTS, THE "D" IN WORDS LIKE "DIA" IS PRONOUNCED LIKE "JIA" BECAUSE OF PALATALIZATION BEFORE THE VOWEL "I".
- **ENGLISH "EDUCATION":** THE "D" IN "EDUCATION" IS PRONOUNCED LIKE "J" DUE TO A HISTORICAL SOUND CHANGE CALLED DIACHRONIC PALATALIZATION.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN "D" AND "J/G" IN CERTAIN LANGUAGES STEMS FROM PALATALIZATION, WHERE SOUNDS SHIFT AND TRANSFORM OVER TIME, LEADING TO PRONUNCIATION CHANGES".

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ABOUT THE ROMANCE LANGUAGES:

- AMORE = MOOR
- MOOR = NOIRE
- NOIRE = NAGA
- NAGA = MAYA
- MOOR = NOIR = PERS (PERSIA)
- P = B
- B = M
- L = R
- PERS = BLUE (BLACK) = MOORS, LATER CORRUPTED TO "BERBERS".

SEARCH LABS | AI OVERVIEW ON GOOGLE:

"THE TERM "PERS" COMES FROM OLD FRENCH "PERS," MEANING "(DARK) BLUE, LIVID; WAN, PALE". IT IS BELIEVED TO HAVE ORIGINATED FROM LATE LATIN "PERSUS," POSSIBLY A BACK-FORMATION FROM AN EARLY EUROPEAN FORM OF "PERSIA". IT IS ALSO CONNECTED TO MEDIEVAL LATIN "PERSUS" OR "PERSUM" MEANING "DARK BLUE". SOME SOURCES SUGGEST A POSSIBLE CONNECTION TO THE LATIN WORD FOR PEACH BLOSSOM, "PERSICA," REFERRING TO ITS COLOR.

"PERSE" IN AMERICAN ENGLISH IS DESCRIBED AS A VERY DEEP SHADE OF BLUE OR PURPLE. IN MIDDLE ENGLISH, "PERS" AND "PERSE" ALSO REFERRED TO A BLUE OR BLUE-GREY COLOR, OR CLOTH OF THAT COLOR. EXAMPLES IN MIDDLE ENGLISH LITERATURE SHOW ITS USE TO DESCRIBE BLUE FABRICS, SUCH AS IN CHAUCER'S WORKS.

THE ETYMOLOGY OF "BLAK" IS QUITE DISTINCT. IT COMES FROM OLD ENGLISH "BLÆC," MEANING "BLACK, DARK, ALSO INK." THIS, IN TURN, DERIVED FROM PROTO-GERMANIC "*BLAKKAZ," MEANING "BURNED". FURTHER TRACING GOES BACK TO PROTO-INDO-EUROPEAN "*BHLEG-," MEANING "TO BURN, GLEAM, SHINE, FLASH". THIS ROOT ALSO RELATES TO WORDS LIKE LATIN "FLAGRARE" (TO BLAZE, GLOW, BURN) AND

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ANCIENT GREEK "PHLEGEIN" (TO BURN, SCORCH). "BLACK" REPLACED THE OLDER OLD ENGLISH WORD "SWEART" WHICH MEANT "BLACK, DARK".

- DOES THE 14TH AMENDMENT CONTEXTUALISE "SLAVERY"?

PERPLEXITY.AI

"THE WORD "SLAVERY" IS SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION ONLY IN THE 13TH AMENDMENT. THE RELEVANT TEXT IS:

"NEITHER SLAVERY NOR INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE, EXCEPT AS A PUNISHMENT FOR CRIME WHEREOF THE PARTY SHALL HAVE BEEN DULY CONVICTED, SHALL EXIST WITHIN THE UNITED STATES, OR ANY PLACE SUBJECT TO THEIR JURISDICTION."

THE ORIGINAL CONSTITUTION DID NOT USE THE WORDS "SLAVE" OR "SLAVERY" ANYWHERE IN ITS TEXT, THOUGH IT REFERRED TO ENSLAVED PEOPLE INDIRECTLY WITH PHRASES LIKE "OTHER PERSONS" OR "PERSON HELD TO SERVICE OR LABOR".

THE 14TH AMENDMENT DOES NOT MENTION THE WORD "SLAVERY" AT ALL IN ANY OF ITS SECTIONS".

- TO WHOM DOES THE CONSTITUTION ACTUALLY APPLY?

[CONSTITUTION.CONGRESS.GOV/CONSTITUTION/AMENDMENT-1/](https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-1/)
[U.S. CONSTITUTION - FIRST AMENDMENT](#) | [RESOURCES](#) | [CONSTITUTION ANNOTATED](#) |
[CONGRESS.GOV](#) | [LIBRARY OF CONGRESS](#)

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1ST AMENDMENT

SECTION ONE

“CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGION, OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF; OR ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS; OR THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE PEACEABLY TO ASSEMBLE, AND TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES”.

THE MOROCCAN-AMERICAN TREATY OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP, [28 JUNE 1786]

[FOUNDERS.ARCHIVES.GOV/DOCUMENTS/ADAMS/06-18-02-0196](https://founders.archives.gov/documents/adams/06-18-02-0196)

[THE MOROCCAN-AMERICAN TREATY OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP, \[28 JUNE ...](#)

- WHO ALL WERE SLAVES?

13TH AMENDMENT

- [CONSTITUTION.CONGRESS.GOV/CONSTITUTION/AMENDMENT-13/](https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-13/)
- [U.S. CONSTITUTION - THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT | RESOURCES | CONSTITUTION ANNOTATED | CONGRESS.GOV | LIBRARY OF CONGRESS](#)

SECTION 1

“NEITHER SLAVERY NOR INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE, EXCEPT AS A PUNISHMENT FOR CRIME WHEREOF THE PARTY SHALL HAVE BEEN DULY CONVICTED, SHALL EXIST WITHIN THE UNITED STATES, OR ANY PLACE SUBJECT TO THEIR JURISDICTION”.

SECTION 2

“CONGRESS SHALL HAVE POWER TO ENFORCE THIS ARTICLE BY APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION”.

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SEARCH LABS | AI OVERVIEW:

"THE WORD "SLAVE" HAS ITS ORIGINS IN THE MEDIEVAL LATIN TERM "SCLAVUS," WHICH INITIALLY REFERRED TO SLAVIC PEOPLE WHO WERE WIDELY ENSLAVED DURING THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES. THIS TERM DERIVED FROM THE ETHNONYM "SLAV," REFERRING TO A GROUP OF PEOPLE INHABITING EASTERN EUROPE. OVER TIME, "SCLAVUS" EVOLVED TO ENCOMPASS THE CONCEPT OF A PERSON HELD IN BONDAGE, REGARDLESS OF THEIR ETHNICITY, AND EVENTUALLY BECAME THE ENGLISH WORD "SLAVE".

HERE'S A MORE DETAILED BREAKDOWN:

MEDIEVAL LATIN:

THE TERM "SCLAVUS" (OR "SCLAVA") WAS USED TO DENOTE A SLAV, BUT ALSO SPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO THOSE ENSLAVED.

SLAVS:

THE SLAVS, AN EAST EUROPEAN GROUP, WERE FREQUENTLY CAPTURED AND ENSLAVED, PARTICULARLY BY THE MUSLIMS IN SPAIN DURING THE 9TH CENTURY.

OLD FRENCH AND MIDDLE ENGLISH:

THE OLD FRENCH WORD "ESCLAVE" (ALSO FROM "SCLAVUS") AND THE MIDDLE ENGLISH "SCLAVE" FURTHER SOLIDIFIED THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TERM AND THE CONCEPT OF SLAVERY.

MODERN ENGLISH:

THE WORD EVOLVED TO ITS CURRENT FORM, "SLAVE," RETAINING THE CORE MEANING OF A PERSON HELD IN FORCED SERVITUDE.

THEREFORE, **THE ETYMOLOGY OF "SLAVE" IS INTRINSICALLY LINKED TO THE HISTORY OF ENSLAVEMENT OF SLAVIC PEOPLES**, AND THE TERM ITSELF REFLECTS A HISTORICAL REALITY OF FORCED LABOR AND BONDAGE".

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“LAWS THAT SPECIFICALLY MENTION THE WORD “NEGRO” WITH REGARD TO SLAVERY INCLUDE THE SOUTH CAROLINA NEGRO ACT OF 1740, OFFICIALLY TITLED THE “BILL FOR THE BETTER ORDERING AND GOVERNING OF NEGROES AND OTHER SLAVES IN THIS PROVINCE.” THIS LAW EXPLICITLY REGULATED ENSLAVED AFRICAN PEOPLE, PROHIBITING THEM FROM GROWING THEIR OWN FOOD, LEARNING TO READ, MOVING FREELY, ASSEMBLING, AND EARNING MONEY. IT ALSO AUTHORIZED HARSH PUNISHMENTS, INCLUDING WHIPPING AND KILLING ENSLAVED AFRICANS DEEMED REBELLIOUS. THIS ACT CODIFIED WHITE SUPREMACY AND TREATED ENSLAVED AFRICANS AS CHATTEL, REVOKING ALL CIVIL RIGHTS FROM THEM.

ADDITIONALLY, AFTER THE CIVIL WAR, BLACK CODES ENACTED IN SOUTHERN STATES FREQUENTLY USED THE TERM “NEGRO” IN THEIR PROVISIONS. THESE LAWS RESTRICTED THE FREEDOMS OF NEWLY FREED AFRICAN AMERICANS, CONTROLLING THEIR LABOR, MOVEMENT, AND LEGAL RIGHTS. FOR EXAMPLE, SOUTH CAROLINA’S BLACK CODES INCLUDED LICENSING REQUIREMENTS, VAGRANCY LAWS, AND SEPARATE COURTS FOR BLACK PEOPLE, WITH MANY PROVISIONS ECHOING THE EARLIER SLAVE CODES AND EXPLICITLY TARGETING “NEGROES” OR “PERSONS OF COLOR”.

IN SUMMARY:

LAW/CODE	YEAR	USE OF “NEGRO”	DESCRIPTION
SOUTH CAROLINA NEGRO ACT	1740	YES	REGULATED ENSLAVED AFRICANS, RESTRICTED FREEDOMS, AUTHORIZED PUNISHMENTS

BLACK CODES (VARIOUS SOUTHERN STATES)	POST- 1865	YES	RESTRICTED RIGHTS OF FREEDMEN, CONTROLLED LABOR AND MOVEMENT, OFTEN USED "NEGRO" IN TEXT
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THESE LAWS ARE AMONG THE PRIMARY HISTORICAL LEGAL TEXTS WHERE THE WORD "NEGRO" IS EXPLICITLY USED IN RELATION TO SLAVERY AND THE CONTROL OF BLACK PEOPLE IN THE U.S.."

MISCELLANEOUS:

"THE PROGRAMS OF NEGRO CIVIL RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS"

[JSTOR.ORG/STABLE/2966010](https://www.jstor.org/stable/2966010)

[THE PROGRAMS OF NEGRO CIVIL RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS ON JSTOR](https://www.jstor.org/stable/2966010)

"THE NEGRO AND POLITICS"

[TEACHINGAMERICANHISTORY.ORG/DOCUMENT/THE-NEGRO-IN-AMERICAN-LIFE-GUIDANCE-FOR-THE-VOICE-OF-AMERICA-2/](https://teachingamericanhistory.org/document/the-negro-in-american-life-guidance-for-the-voice-of-america-2/)

[THE NEGRO IN AMERICAN LIFE \(GUIDANCE FOR THE VOICE OF AMERICA\) | TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY](https://teachingamericanhistory.org/document/the-negro-in-american-life-guidance-for-the-voice-of-america-2/)

"ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES IS UNDER STEADY ATTACK BY MOSCOW ON THE STATUS OF THE AMERICAN NEGRO, VOA HAS NOT ATTEMPTED TO ANSWER THESE SPECIFICALLY, BUT WHEREVER POSSIBLE DOES REPORT THE PROGRESS OF THE NEGRO IN DIFFERENT AREAS IN AMERICAN LIFE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ATTACHED SERIES OF SIX SCRIPTS ON SEGREGATION AND THE LAW, BASED ON THE SUPREME COURT DECISION ON NEGRO CIVIL RIGHTS".

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